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United States of America

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

19 COMES NOW the plaintiff, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, by and through its counsel,
20 Karen P. Hewitt, United States Attorney, and Aaron B. Clark, Assistant U.S. Attorney, and hereby
21 files its Response to Defendant's Motions in the above-referenced case. Said Response is based
22 upon the files and records of this case together with the attached statement of facts and
memorandum of points and authorities.

DATED: January 9, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

KAREN P. HEWITT
United States Attorney

s/ William A. Hall, Jr.
WILLIAM A. HALL, JR.
Assistant United States Attorney

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I

STATEMENT OF THE CASE

18 The Defendant, Ivan Flores (hereinafter “Defendant”), was charged by a grand jury on
19 December 5, 2007 with violating 21 U.S.C. §§ 952 and 960, importation of marijuana, and 21
20 U.S.C. § 841(a)(1), possession of marijuana with the intent to distribute. Defendant was arraigned
21 on the Indictment on December 6, 2007, and entered a plea of not guilty.

II

STATEMENT OF FACTS

24 Defendant was apprehended on the morning of November 7, 2007, by United States
25 Customs and Border Protection (“CBP”) Officers at the Calexico, California (West) Port of Entry.

1 At the time, Defendant entered the vehicle inspection lanes as the driver and registered owner of
2 a 1990 Ford F-150 pick-up truck ("the vehicle").

3 At primary inspection, Defendant offered CBP Officer Hadley Newgent a negative customs
4 declaration. Officer Newgent then began inspecting the truck, including opening the rear of the
5 camper shell attached to the truck and the tailgate. As Officer Newgent stood on the open tailgate,
6 he noticed a specially built compartment within the roof of the camper shell. He also noticed a
7 space discrepancy between the top and bottom of the camper shell. He thereafter referred the
8 vehicle to secondary inspection.

9 At secondary inspection, Defendant again gave a negative customs declaration. He also
10 claimed he had owned the vehicle for approximately one month and that he usually crossed the
11 border in the vehicle two to three times per week. A narcotics detector dog (NDD) then screened
12 the vehicle and alerted to the presence of contraband within the camper shell of the truck. Officers
13 ultimately found six packages of marijuana, weighing approximately 66.80 kilograms, in the
14 camper shell.

15 As CBP Officer Michael Hedlund escorted Defendant to the vehicle secondary office,
16 Defendant tried to pull away, requiring the officer to physically restrain Defendant. Defendant
17 tried to pull away once again inside the vehicle secondary office, which Officer Hedlund responded
18 to by restraining Defendant against the counter in the until Defendant calmed down.

19 At approximately 10:45 a.m. the same morning, Defendant agreed to waive his Miranda
20 rights and make a statement. In his statement, which was recorded on DVD, Defendant stated that
21 he knew there was marijuana concealed in the truck when he entered the United States. He also
22 stated he was to be paid \$2,500 to deliver the marijuana to an unknown location near Los Angeles,
23 CA.

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25 //
26 //

III

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

A. DISCOVERY REQUESTS AND MOTION TO PRESERVE EVIDENCE

1. The Government Has or Will Disclose Information Subject To Disclosure Under Rule 16(a)(1)(A) and (B) Of The Federal Rules Of Criminal Procedure

The government has disclosed, or will disclose well in advance of trial, any statements subject to discovery under Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(a)(1)(A) (substance of Defendant's oral statements *in response to government interrogation*) and 16(a)(1)(B) (Defendant's relevant written or recorded statements, written records containing substance of Defendant's oral statements *in response to government interrogation*, and Defendant's grand jury testimony).

a. The Government Will Comply With Rule 16(a)(1)(D)

Defendant has already been provided with his or her own “rap” sheet and the government will produce any additional information it uncovers regarding Defendant’s criminal record. Any subsequent or prior similar acts of Defendant that the government intends to introduce under Rule 404(b) of the Federal Rules of Evidence will be provided, along with any accompanying reports, at a reasonable time in advance of trial.

b. The Government Will Comply With Rule 16(a)(1)(E)

The government will permit Defendant to inspect and copy or photograph all books, papers, documents, data, photographs, tangible objects, buildings or places, or portions thereof, that are material to the preparation of Defendant's defense or are intended for use by the government as evidence-in-chief at trial or were obtained from or belong to Defendant.

Reasonable efforts will be made to preserve relevant physical evidence which is in the custody and control of the investigating agency and the prosecution, with the following exceptions: drug evidence, with the exception of a representative sample, is routinely destroyed after 60 days, and vehicles are routinely and periodically sold at auction. Records of radio transmissions, if they existed, are frequently kept for only a short period of time and may no longer be available.

1 Counsel should contact the Assistant United States Attorney assigned to the case two weeks before
 2 the scheduled trial date and the Assistant will make arrangements with the case agent for counsel
 3 to view all evidence within the government's possession.

4 c. The Government Will Comply With Rule 16(a)(1)(F)

5 The government will permit Defendant to inspect and copy or photograph any results or
 6 reports of physical or mental examinations, and of scientific tests or experiments, or copies thereof,
 7 that are within the possession of the government, and by the exercise of due diligence may become
 8 known to the attorney for the government and are material to the preparation of the defense or are
 9 intended for use by the government as evidence-in-chief at the trial. Counsel for Defendant should
 10 contact the Assistant United States Attorney assigned to the case and the Assistant will make
 11 arrangements with the case agent for counsel to view all evidence within the government's
 12 possession.

13 d. The Government Will Comply With Its Obligations Under *Brady v.*
 14 *Maryland*

15 The government is well aware of and will fully perform its duty under Brady v. Maryland,
 16 373 U.S. 83 (1963), and United States v. Agurs, 427 U.S. 97 (1976), to disclose exculpatory
 17 evidence within its possession that is material to the issue of guilt or punishment. Defendant,
 18 however, is not entitled to all evidence known or believed to exist that is, or may be, favorable to
 19 the accused, or that pertains to the credibility of the government's case. As stated in United States
 20 v. Gardner, 611 F.2d 770 (9th Cir. 1980), it must be noted that:

21 [T]he prosecution does not have a constitutional duty to disclose every bit of
 22 information that might affect the jury's decision; it need only disclose information
 23 favorable to the defense that meets the appropriate standard of materiality.

24 611 F.2d at 774-775 (citations omitted). See also United States v. Sukumolachan, 610 F.2d 685,
 25 687 (9th Cir. 1980) (the government is not required to create exculpatory material that does not
 26 exist); United States v. Flores, 540 F.2d 432, 438 (9th Cir. 1976) (Brady does not create any
 27 pretrial privileges not contained in the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure).

e. Discovery Regarding Government Witnesses

(1) Agreements. The government has disclosed or will disclose the terms of any agreements by Government agents, employees, or attorneys with witnesses that testify at trial. Such information will be provided at or before the time of the filing of the Government's trial memorandum.^{1/} The government will comply with its obligations to disclose impeachment evidence under *Giglio v. United States*, 405 U.S. 150 (1972).

(2) Bias or Prejudice. The government has provided or will provide information related to the bias, prejudice or other motivation to lie of government trial witnesses as required in Napue v. Illinois, 360 U.S. 264 (1959).

(3) Criminal Convictions. The government has produced or will produce any criminal convictions of government witnesses plus any *material* criminal acts which did not result in conviction. The government is not aware that any prospective witness is under criminal investigation.

(4) Ability to Perceive. The government has produced or will produce any evidence that the ability of a government trial witness to perceive, communicate or tell the truth is impaired or that such witnesses have ever used narcotics or other controlled substances, or are alcoholics.

(5) **Witness List.** The government will endeavor to provide Defendant with a list of all witnesses which it intends to call in its case-in-chief at the time the government's trial memorandum is filed, although delivery of such a list is not required. See United States v. Dischner, 960 F.2d 870 (9th Cir. 1992); United States v. Culter, 806 F.2d 933, 936 (9th Cir. 1986); United States v. Mills, 810 F.2d 907, 910 (9th Cir. 1987). Defendant, however, is not entitled to the production of addresses or phone numbers of possible government witnesses. See United

¹ As with all other offers by the government to produce discovery earlier than it is required to do, the offer is made without prejudice. If, as trial approaches, the government is not prepared to make early discovery production, or if there is a strategic reason not to do so as to certain discovery, the government reserves the right to withhold the requested material until the time it is required to be produced pursuant to discovery laws and rules.

1 | States v. Thompson, 493 F.2d 305, 309 (9th Cir. 1977), cert. denied, 419 U.S. 834 (1974).
 2 | Defendant has already received access to the names of potential witnesses in this case in the
 3 | investigative reports previously provided to him or her.

4 | (6) Witnesses Not to Be Called. The government is not required to
 5 | disclose all evidence it has or to make an accounting to Defendant of the investigative work it has
 6 | performed. Moore v. Illinois, 408 U.S. 786, 795 (1972); see United States v. Gardner, 611 F.2d
 7 | 770, 774-775 (9th Cir. 1980). Accordingly, the government objects to any request by Defendant
 8 | for discovery concerning any individuals whom the government does not intend to call as
 9 | witnesses.

10 | (7) Favorable Statements. The government has disclosed or will
 11 | disclose the names of witnesses, if any, who have made favorable statements concerning Defendant
 12 | which meet the requirements of Brady.

13 | (8) Review of Personnel Files. The government has requested or will
 14 | request a review of the personnel files of all federal law enforcement individuals who will be called
 15 | as witnesses in this case for Brady material. The government will request that counsel for the
 16 | appropriate federal law enforcement agency conduct such review. United States v. Herring, 83
 17 | F.3d 1120 (9th Cir. 1996); see, also, United States v. Jennings, 960 F.2d 1488, 1492 (9th Cir.
 18 | 1992); United States v. Dominguez-Villa, 954 F.2d 562 (9th Cir. 1992).

19 | Pursuant to United States v. Henthorn, 931 F.2d 29 (9th Cir. 1991) and United States v.
 20 | Cadet, 727 F.2d 1452 (9th Cir. 1984), the United States agrees to “disclose information favorable
 21 | to the defense that meets the appropriate standard of materiality . . .” United States v. Cadet, 727
 22 | F.2d at 1467, 1468. Further, if counsel for the United States is uncertain about the materiality of
 23 | the information within its possession in such personnel files, the information will be submitted to
 24 | the Court for in camera inspection and review.

25 | (9) Government Witness Statements. Production of witness statements
 26 | is governed by the Jencks Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3500, and need occur only after the witness testifies

1 on direct examination. United States v. Taylor, 802 F.2d 1108, 1118 (9th Cir. 1986); United States
 2 v. Mills, 641 F.2d 785, 790 (9th Cir. 1981)). Indeed, even material believed to be exculpatory and
 3 therefore subject to disclosure under the Brady doctrine, if contained in a witness statement subject
 4 to the Jencks Act, need not be revealed until such time as the witness statement is disclosed under
 5 the Act. See United States v. Bernard, 623 F.2d 551, 556-57 (9th Cir. 1979).

6 The government reserves the right to withhold the statements of any particular witnesses
 7 it deems necessary until after the witness testifies. Otherwise, the government will disclose the
 8 statements of witnesses at the time of the filing of the government's trial memorandum, provided
 9 that defense counsel has complied with Defendant's obligations under Federal Rules of Criminal
 10 Procedure 12.1, 12.2, and 16 and 26.2 and provided that defense counsel turn over all "reverse
 11 Jencks" statements at that time.

12 f. The Government Objects To The Full Production Of Agents' Handwritten
 13 Notes At This Time

14 Although the government has no objection to the preservation of agents' handwritten notes,
 15 it objects to requests for full production for immediate examination and inspection. If certain
 16 rough notes become relevant during any evidentiary proceeding, those notes will be made
 17 available.

18 Prior production of these notes is not necessary because they are not "statements" within
 19 the meaning of the Jencks Act unless they comprise both a substantially verbatim narrative of a
 20 witness' assertions *and* they have been approved or adopted by the witness. United States v.
 21 Spencer, 618 F.2d 605, 606-607 (9th Cir. 1980); see also United States v. Griffin, 659 F.2d 932,
 22 936-938 (9th Cir. 1981).

23 g. All Investigatory Notes and Arrest Reports

24 The government objects to any request for production of all arrest reports, investigator's
 25 notes, memos from arresting officers, and prosecution reports pertaining to Defendant. Such
 26 reports, except to the extent that they include Brady material or the statements of Defendant, are
 27

1 protected from discovery by Rule 16(a)(2) as “reports . . . made by . . . Government agents in
 2 connection with the investigation or prosecution of the case.”

3 Although agents’ reports may have already been produced to the defense, the government
 4 is not required to produce such reports, except to the extent they contain Brady or other such
 5 material. Furthermore, the government is not required to disclose all evidence it has or to render
 6 an accounting to Defendant of the investigative work it has performed. Moore v. Illinois, 408 U.S.
 7 786, 795 (1972); see United States v. Gardner, 611 F.2d 770, 774-775 (9th Cir. 1980).

8 h. Expert Witnesses.

9 Pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(a)(1)(G), at or about the time of filing its trial
 10 memorandum, the government will provide the defense with notice of any expert witnesses the
 11 testimony of whom the government intends to use under Rules 702, 703, or 705 of the Fed. R. of
 12 Evidence in its case-in-chief. Such notice will describe the witnesses’ opinions, the bases and the
 13 reasons therefor, and the witnesses’ qualifications. Reciprocally, the government requests that the
 14 defense provide notice of its expert witnesses pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(b)(1)(C).

15 i. Information Which May Result in Lower Sentence.

16 Defendant has claimed or may claim that the government must disclose information about
 17 any cooperation or any attempted cooperation with the government as well as any other
 18 information affecting Defendant’s sentencing guidelines because such information is discoverable
 19 under Brady v. Maryland. The government respectfully contends that it has no such disclosure
 20 obligations under Brady.

21 The government is not obliged under Brady to furnish a defendant with information which
 22 he already knows. United States v. Taylor, 802 F.2d 1108, 1118 n.5 (9th Cir. 1986), cert. denied,
 23 479 U.S. 1094 (1987); United States v. Prior, 546 F.2d 1254, 1259 (5th Cir. 1977). Brady is a rule
 24 of disclosure. There can be no violation of Brady if the evidence is already known to Defendant.

25 //

1 Assuming that Defendant did not already possess the information about factors which
2 might affect their respective guideline range, the government would not be required to provide
3 information bearing on Defendant's mitigation of punishment until after Defendant's conviction
4 or plea of guilty and prior to his sentencing date. "No [Brady] violation occurs if the evidence is
5 disclosed to the defendant at a time when the disclosure remains of value." United States v.
6 Juvenile Male, 864 F.2d 641 (9th Cir. 1988).

7 **D. NO OPPOSITION TO LEAVE TO FILE FURTHER MOTIONS**

8 The United States does not object to the granting of leave to allow Defendant to file further
9 motions, as long as the order applies equally to both parties and additional motions are based on
10 newly discovered evidence or discovery provided by the United States subsequent to the instant
11 motion.

12 **IV**

13 **CONCLUSION**

14 For the foregoing reasons, the government respectfully requests that Defendant's motions,
15 except where not opposed, be denied.

16
17
18 DATED: January 9, 2008.

19 Respectfully submitted,

20 KAREN P. HEWITT
21 United States Attorney

22 s/ Aaron B. Clark
23 AARON B. CLARK
24 Assistant United States Attorney

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Case No. 07CR3279-IEG

Plaintiff

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

V.

IVAN FLORES,

Defendant(s).

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED THAT:

I, AARON B. CLARK, am a citizen of the United States and am at least eighteen years of age. My business address is 880 Front Street, Room 6293, San Diego, California 92101-8893.

I am not a party to the above-entitled action. I have caused service of UNITED STATES' RESPONSE TO DEFENDANT'S MOTIONS on the following parties by electronically filing the foregoing with the Clerk of the District Court using its ECF System, which electronically notifies them.

1. Debra R. Torres-Reyes, Esq.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on January 9, 2008.

s/ Aaron B. Clark

AARON B. CLARK
